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makes use of such terms as this in giving us a word picture of the bird and its activities that could be accomplished in no other way. Indeed Dr. Grinnell's very use of such terms shows us clearly just what activities he is going to explain in terms of "stern utility."

Bereft of all such terms what would be left of the writings of Audubon and hosts of others which have their place in serious ornithological literature as much as the equally serious studies of animal behavior which latter however have sometimes but little "literary" claims.

All of this however has no bearing on the excellence of Dr. Grinnell's paper.—W. S.

**Murphy on the Seacoast and Islands of Peru.**<sup>1</sup>—The seventh instalment of Dr. Murphy's account of his recent expedition to Peru describes Asia Island and the visit to Callao. The destruction of tens of thousands of Cormorant nests by the Condors is described and the necessity on the part of the Guano industry to kill off these noble birds when pillaging the islands is admitted. A number of interesting pictures of cormorants, penguins, etc., from photographs illustrate the article.—W. S.

**Kirke Swann's 'Synopsis of the Accipitres.'**<sup>2</sup>—Part one of a Second Edition of Mr. Swann's 'Synopsis' has appeared, "revised and corrected throughout," and with all new forms described up to 1920. It follows the plan of the first edition, the present instalment covering *Vultur* to *Accipiter*.—W. S.

**Sewerzow on the Zoogeography of the Palaearctic Region.**<sup>3</sup>—This pamphlet is a reprint of a communication presented before the Russian Geographic Society in 1877, and which showed an understanding of the subject on the part of the author far in advance of his time. He divides the region into two parts Boreal and Austral, the former containing the Polar; Northern Wooded Zone (including the North-European, Ural-Siberian and East Siberian Provinces) and Intermediate Zone, (including the Middle European, Ural-Arabian and Drurian Provinces). The Austral sub-region contains the South-West Zone (Atlantic and Mediterranean Provinces) and the Desert Zone, (Lybian, North African, West Asian, Middle Asian, Thibetan and Sind Provinces). He has in addition

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<sup>1</sup> The Seacoast and Islands of Peru, VII. By Robert Cushman Murphy. Brooklyn Museum Quarterly, October. 1921, pp. 142-155.

<sup>2</sup> A Synopsis of the Accipitres (Diurnal Birds of Prey). Part I (Vultur to Accipiter). By H. Kirke Swann. Second Edition, revised and corrected throughout. Sept. 28, 1921, pp. 1-63. Price 6s. Wheldon and Wesley Ltd., 38 Great Queen St., Kingsway, W. C. 2., London, England.

<sup>3</sup> Über die Zoologischer (hauptsächlich ornithologischen) Gebiete der ausserhalb der Tropen gelegenen Teile unseres Kontinents. Von Nikolai Sewerzow. Übersetzt und eingeleitet von Hermann Grote. Mit einem Bildnis Sewerzows. Dultz and Co. München. 1921 pp. 1-32.